



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: McClung, G.L. III

Serial No: 09/375,451

Filed: 08/17/99

For: Improvements To
Business System

§
§ Art Unit: 2761
§
§ Examiner:
§
§ Atty Docket No: GLM III

PATENT

TC 2700 MAIL ROOM

MAY 25 2000

RECEIVED

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please cancel claims 1 - 20 and enter new claims 21 - 37:

1 21. A method for guaranteeing a consumer a best price on an item purchased
2 from a vendor in a first transaction at a first price, the method comprising
3 recording the first price and information identifying the consumer,
4 monitoring the sales price of the item for a predetermined time
5 period after the first transaction,
6 noting any price lower than the first price for the item during the
7 predetermined time period,
8 calculating a money-value difference between the first price and
9 said any price lower than the first price, and
10 refunding to the consumer an amount equal to the money-value
11 difference,
12 wherein the item is purchased via a host system and the host
13 system records the first price and information identifying the customer; the host
14 system conducts the monitoring, noting, and calculating steps; and the host
15 system provides the refund to the consumer, and
16 wherein the host system provides the refund by crediting an